

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

Rec'd PCT/PTO 03 MAY 2005

PCT

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

NOTIFICATION OF RECEIPT
OF SEARCH COPY

(PCT Rule 25.1)

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Hommachi 2-chome
Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi
Osaka 5410053
JAPAN

RECEIVED

NOV. 15. 2004

MAEDA PATENT OFFICE

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) 09/11/2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference

M04 - E - 255CT1

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/014907

International filing date(day/month/year)

01/10/2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

02/10/2003

Applicant

MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.

1. Where the International Searching Authority and the receiving Office are not the same office:

The applicant is hereby notified that the search copy of the international application was received by this International Searching Authority on the date indicated below.

Where the International Searching Authority and the receiving Office are the same office:

The applicant is hereby notified that the search copy of the international application was received on the date indicated below.

20/10/2004 (date of receipt).

2. ☐ The search copy was accompanied by a nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing or tables related thereto in computer readable form.

3. Time limit for establishment of international search report and written opinion of the International Searching Authority

The applicant is informed that the time limit for establishing the international search report and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority is three months from the date of receipt indicated above or nine months from the priority date, whichever time limit expires later (Rules 42.1 and 43bis.1(a))

4. A copy of this notification has been sent to the International Bureau and, where the first sentence of paragraph 1 applies, to the receiving Office.

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

ISA/EP

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/JP2004/014907A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B41J11/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B41J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| X | EP 1 348 566 A (KONISHIROKU PHOTO IND) 1 October 2003 (2003-10-01) paragraph '0032! - paragraph '0035!; figure 1 paragraph '0051! - paragraph '0055!; figures 3a,3b,4 | 1-51 |
| X | US 2003/035037 A1 (CLEARY ARTHUR L ET AL) 20 February 2003 (2003-02-20) paragraph '0008! - paragraph '0010! paragraph '0058! - paragraph '0061!; figures 1,8a,8b,9a,9b | 1-51 |
| X | US 2003/081096 A1 (YOUNG MICHAEL Y) 1 May 2003 (2003-05-01) paragraphs '0030!, '0049!; figure 3 | 1-51 |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

G document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 January 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

31/01/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
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Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Axters, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/JP2004/014907

| Patent document cited in search report | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|---|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| EP 1348566 A | 01-10-2003 | EP 1348566 A2 | 01-10-2003 |
| | | JP 2004001437 A | 08-01-2004 |
| | | US 2003184632 A1 | 02-10-2003 |
| US 2003035037 A1 | 20-02-2003 | US 2002149660 A1 | 17-10-2002 |
| US 2003081096 A1 | 01-05-2003 | NONE | |

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference M04-E-255CT1 | FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below. | |
| International application No. PCT/JP2004/014907 | International filing date (day/month/year) 01/10/2004 | (Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 02/10/2003 |
| Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD. | | |

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐

The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. ☐

With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐

Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3. ☐

Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the **title**,
☒

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,
☒

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the **drawings**,

- a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 2

☒

as suggested by the applicant.

☐

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. ☐

none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/JP2004/014907

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- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 January 2005

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Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Axters, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

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| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
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| | | | JP 2004001437 A | 08-01-2004 |
| | | | US 2003184632 A1 | 02-10-2003 |
| US 2003035037 | A1 | 20-02-2003 | US 2002149660 A1 | 17-10-2002 |
| US 2003081096 | A1 | 01-05-2003 | NONE | |